

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/997,253	BRUSSEL, RICHARD	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Joseph S. Del Sole	1722	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the election of 9/29/03 (confirmed 10/28/03).
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 9-20.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 30 November 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
  - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☒ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the Examiner.
  - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)                    |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. <u>12/1/2003</u> |
| 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No. <u>5/20/2002</u> | 7 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                            |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                      | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance           |
|  | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other  |

Application/Control Number: 09/997,253  
Art Unit: 1722

Page 2

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. George Quillin on 12/1/03.

The application has been amended as follows:

Title:

the title should be changed from "Method and apparatus for the manufacture of fiber-reinforced plastic compositions" to -- Apparatus for the manufacture of fiber-reinforced plastic compositions --.

Specification:

substitute the following for paragraph [0044] at page 12, line 27 to page 13, line 4:

-- [0044] The foreign priority document, here German Patent Application No. DE 100 59 525.1, filed November 30, 2000, including the specification, the drawings, the claims, and the abstract, is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. Additionally, U.S. Patent Application, serial number [[\_\_\_\_]] 09/997,246 (claiming priority from German Patent Application No. DE 1 00 59 461.1, filed November 30,

2000), including the specification, the drawings, the claims and the abstract, is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. --

Claims:

Claims 1-8 (canceled)

Claim 9. (Original) An apparatus for the production of fiber-reinforced plastic compositions from fiber material and melted plastic, comprising:

a parallel, double screw, plasticizing extruder, including

a housing with two bores and two extruder screws driven in rotation, one of the bores being a cylinder bore having a diameter and one of the extruder screws being a feed screw,

an impregnation section, including a slot-like feed opening provided in the housing above the feed screw for the introduction of fiber material into at least one of the bores and for mixing, wherein beginning at the feed opening the cylinder bore has a  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  wrap-around enlarged by 2 to 20 mm, after which the cylinder bore is reduced to the screw diameter, and

a stripper bar disposed at the end of the wrap-around;

and a plastic melting extruder adapted to heat the fiber material in a transport line to the plasticizing extruder.

10. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  wrap-around enlarged by 2 to 20 mm is eccentric.

11. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the plasticizing extruder comprises mop-up screw elements.

12. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein a feed area is expanded conically onto the feed screw.

13. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the enlargement is created downstream in a closed area of the plasticizing extruder.

14. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein a driven feed roll with a stripper bar is disposed in a feed area of the feed opening.

15. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein an entry jaw adapted to move is disposed in relation to the feed opening.

16. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein following the entry jaw, the enlargement terminates spirally in the direction of rotation of the feed screw.

17. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the entry jaw is thermally insulated from the housing.

18. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the entry jaw is adapted to be moved by an oscillating drive.

19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 9 15, wherein the ~~temperature of the entry jaw is adapted to be heated or cooled~~ can be tempered below the tackiness temperature of the fiber material.

20. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein exchangeable scrapers are provided in the feed opening.

***Oath/Declaration***

2. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because:

Non-initialed and/or non-dated alterations have been made to the oath or declaration. See 37 CFR 1.52(c). Specifically, on page 1 of the oath, the specification was initialed reference as 09/997,246, but this was crossed-out and replaced with the appropriate 09/997,253 without being initialed.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest an apparatus having a plastic melting extruder in a transport line to a parallel, double screw, plasticizing extruder; the plasticizing extruder having an impregnation section, including a feed opening wherein beginning at the feed opening the cylinder bore has a  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  wrap-around enlarged by 2 to 20 mm, after which the cylinder bore is reduced to the screw diameter and a stripper bar disposed at the end of the wrap-around.

Application/Control Number: 09/997,253  
Art Unit: 1722

Page 4

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### ***References of Interest***

4. Wenger et al (4,875,847) and Ruger (6,106,266) are cited of interest to show the state of the art.


#### ***Correspondence***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Joseph S. Del Sole whose telephone number is (703) 308-6295 (after 12/8/03 the Mr. Del Sole's new number is (571)272-1130). The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ms. Wanda Walker, can be reached at (703) 308-0457 (after 12/8/03 Ms. Walker's new number is (571)272-1151). The official fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306 for both non-after finals and for after finals.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

*Joseph S Del Sole*  
J.S.D.  
December 1, 2003

  
ROBERT DAVIS  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
GROUP 1300-1700

*12/8/03*